May 23, 2022

REVIEW OF NOMINATING PETITION

CHARISE ANDERSON Nonpartisan Candidate for 3rd Circuit Judge, Non-Incumbent Position

NUMBER OF VALID SIGNATURES REQUIRED: 4,000 signatures.

TOTAL FILING: 5,584 signatures.

RESULT OF FACE REVIEW: 5,462 facially valid signatures, 122 invalid signatures.

Total number of signatures filed		5,584
Jurisdiction errors (no city in county known by name given	Less:	109
by signer, dual jurisdiction entry, jurisdiction name given by		
signer does not align with address)		
Date errors (no date given by signer, date of birth entered, or	Less:	3
date given by signer is later than circulator's date of signing)		
Heading errors (heading omits required information)	Less:	10
TOTAL		5,462

Staff's face review of Ms. Anderson's petition sheets identified 122 invalid signatures and 5,462 facially valid signatures.

CHALLENGE: Jeffrey David Hillman filed a challenge against a number of signatures submitted by Ms. Anderson. Mr. Hillman challenged approximately 1,577 signatures claiming various defects including: (1) signatures from individuals not registered in Michigan; (2) signatures duplicated in the petitions; (3) signatures with invalid dates on the signature line; (4) petition sheets where the circulator's certificate omitted the date; (5) signatures omitted required elements of the signatory's address, such as the signer's city or township or street address; (6) petition headers contained an incorrect office; (7) signatures dated after the date of the circulator's signature on the circulator certificate; (8) signatory addresses outside of the jurisdiction listed, and; (9) signatures dated more than 180 days prior to Ms. Anderson's filing for office.¹

¹ Hillman also challenged Anderson's *Affidavit of Identity*; that challenge is not before the Board, as the Secretary of State, not the Board, addresses Affidavit of Identity issues.

Staff rejected challenges to 285 signatures based on the grounds that they were gathered outside of 180 days prior to submission. There is no statutory requirement that candidates for office gather signatures within 180 days of filing. The 180-day statutory requirement is unique to ballot initiatives and candidates running in partisan races without party affiliation. MCL 168.472a; 168.509b. There is no corresponding requirement for nonpartisan offices.

Staff did not process the remaining 1,292 signature challenges because even if challenges to all 1,292 were accepted, Ms. Anderson would still have sufficient signatures to be eligible for the ballot.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Determine petition sufficient.